

IN THE CLAIMS:

Claims 1-20 have been canceled and new claims 21-37 have been added. Please enter these claims as amended. This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1-20 (canceled)

Claim 21 (new): An isolated protein complex having a first protein interacting with a second protein wherein

said first protein is selected from the group consisting of

- (i) PRAK, or a fragment thereof that interacts with said second protein;
- (ii) a homologue of (i), having an amino acid sequence at least 75% identical to that of (i), and that interacts with said second protein; and
- (iii) a first fusion protein comprising (i) or (ii), and

wherein

said second protein is selected from the group consisting of

- (1) ERK3, or a fragment thereof that interacts with PRAK;
- (2) a homologue of (1), having an amino acid sequence at least 75% identical to that of (1), and that interacts with PRAK; and
- (3) a second fusion protein comprising (1) or (2).

Claim 22 (new): The isolated protein complex of claim 21, wherein said first protein is PRAK and said second protein is ERK3.

Claim 23 (new): The isolated protein complex of claim 21, wherein said first protein is said first fusion protein.

Claim 24 (new): The isolated protein complex of claim 21, wherein said second protein is said second fusion protein.

Claim 25 (new): The isolated protein complex of claim 21, wherein said second protein comprises an amino acid sequence that is at least 80% identical to amino acid residues 304 to 471 of PRAK, and wherein said second protein interacts with ERK3.

Claim 26 (new): The isolated protein complex of claim 21, wherein said second protein comprises an amino acid sequence that is at least 80% identical to amino acid residues 36 to 502 of ERK3, and wherein said second protein interacts with PRAK.

Claim 27 (new): The isolated protein complex of claim 21, wherein said first protein is said first fusion protein, and said second protein is said second fusion protein, wherein each of said first and second fusion protein comprises a detectable tag.

Claim 28 (new): The isolated protein complex of claim 21, wherein said first protein is covalently linked to said second protein.

Claim 29 (new): A method for selecting modulators of the isolated protein complex of claim 21, said method comprising:

contacting said first protein with said second protein in the presence of one or more test compounds; and

detecting the interaction between said first protein and said second protein.

Claim 30 (new): The method of claim 29, wherein at least one of said first and second fusion proteins is a fusion protein having a detectable tag.

Claim 31 (new): The method of claim 29, wherein said contacting step is conducted *in vitro*.

Claim 32 (new): The method of claim 29, wherein the interaction between said first protein and said second protein is determined in a host cell.

Claim 33 (new): The method of claim 32, wherein said host cell is a yeast cell.

Claim 34 (new): The method of claim 29, further comprising contacting said first protein with said second protein in the absence of said one or more test compounds and detecting the interaction between said first protein and said second protein, wherein a difference between the interaction detected in the presence and absence of said one or more test compounds indicates that said one or more test compounds can modulate said interaction.

Claim 35 (new): The method of claim 34, further comprising a step of generating a data set defining one or more selected test compounds, said data set being embodied in a transmittable form.

Claim 36 (new): The method of claim 29, wherein one of said first and second proteins is immobilized on a solid support and the interaction is detected as binding between said first and second proteins on said solid support.

Claim 37 (new): The method of claim 29, wherein

said first protein is said first fusion protein and said second protein is said second fusion protein;

wherein one of said first and second fusion proteins comprises a DNA binding domain while the other of said first and second proteins comprises a transcription-activating domain;

wherein said first and second fusion proteins are expressed in a host cell that contains a reporter gene;

wherein said the transcription of said reporter gene is controlled by the interaction between the first fusion protein and the second fusion protein; and

wherein said step of detecting the interaction between said first protein and said second protein comprises determining the expression of said reporter gene in said host cell.